St. Johns Lutheran Church



Phone: 314-773-0126 Email: stjohnslcstl@gmail.com

St. Johns Lutheran Church
3738 Morganford Rd. St. Louis, Missouri 63116
Christmas Eve December 24th, 2025

Preparation

Invocation

Hymn: LSB 332 "Savior of the Nations, Come"

Savior of the nations, come, Virgin's Son, make here Your home! Marvel now, O heav'n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.

Not by human flesh and blood, By the Spirit of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh – Woman's offspring pure and fresh.

Here a maid was found with child, Yet remained a virgin mild. In her womb this truth was shown: God was there upon His throne.

Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and kingly hall; God of God, yet fully man, His heroic course began.

God the Father was His source, Back to God He ran His course. Into hell His road went down, Back then to His throne and crown.

For You are the Father's Son Who in flesh the vict'ry won. By Your might pow'r make whole All our ills of flesh and soul.

From the manger newborn light Shines in glory through the night. Darkness there no more resides; In this light faith now abides.

Stand

Glory to the Father sing, Glory to the Son, our king, Glory to the Spirit be Now and through eternity.

Sermon: Promises...

Announcement

Hymn: LSB 356 "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" (Choir st. 3)

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, With wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame: "All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary, Most highly favored lady." Gloria! "For know a blessed mother thou shalt be, All generations laud and honor thee; Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head; "To me be as it pleaseth God," she said. "My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name."

Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born In Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn, And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:

"Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

Reading: Luke 1:26-38

Hymn: LSB 359 "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming From tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming As prophets long have sung, It came, a flow'ret bright, Amid the cold of winter, When half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, The rose I have in mind; With Mary we behold it, The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
She bore to us a Savior,
When half-spent was the night.

This flow'r, whose fragrance tender With sweetness fills the air, Dispels with glorious splendor The darkness ev'rywhere. True man, yet very God, From sin and death he saves us And lightens ev'ry load.

O Savior, child of Mary, Who felt our human woe; O Savior, King of glory, Who dost our weakness know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright courts of heaven, And to the endless day.

Birth

Reading: Luke 2:1-7

Choir: "Sing Lullaby"

Hymn: LSB 370 "What Child Is This"

What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet While shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the king, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peasant, king, to own Him. The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him. Raise, raise the song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby; Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mary!

Rejoicing

Reading: Luke 2:8-14

Hymn: LSB 380 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King; Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies; With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain:

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity! Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel! [Refrain]

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth. [Refrain]

Reading: Luke 2:15-20

Hymn: LSB 368 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song? [Refrain]

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing; Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. [Refrain]

Salvation

Reading: Luke 2:25-32

Hymn: LSB 376 "Once in Royal David's City"

Once in royal David's city Stood a lowly cattle shed, Where a mother laid her baby In a manger for His bed: Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child. He came down to earth from heaven, Who is God and Lord of all, And His shelter was a stable, And His cradle was a stall; With the poor and mean and lowly Lived on earth our Savior holy.

For He is our childhood's pattern, Day by day like us He grew; He was little, weak, and helpless, Tears and smiles like us He knew; And He feels for all our sadness, And He shares in all our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His own redeeming love; For that child so dear and gentle Is the Lord in heav'n above; And He leads His children on To the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor, lowly stable
With the oxen standing by
Shall we see Him, but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high.
Then like stars His children, crowned,
All in white, His praise will sound!

Collect for Christmas Eve

Hymn: LSB 377 "On Christmas Night All Christians Sing" (Choir st. 1 & 3)

On Christmas night all Christians sing To hear the news the angels bring, On Christmas night all Christians sing To hear the news the angels bring, News of great joy, news of great mirth, News of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be so sad, Since our Redeemer made us glad, Then why should men on earth be so sad, Since our Redeemer made us glad, When from our sin He set us free, All for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before His grace, Then life and health come in its place, When sin departs before His grace, Then life and health come in its place; Angels and men with joy may sing, All for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light, Which made the angels sing this night, All out of darkness we have light, Which made the angels sing this night: "Glory to God and peace to men Now and forevermore. Amen."

Sermon: ...Fulfilled

The Word

Reading: John 1:1-14

Hymn: LSB 363 "Silent Night, Holy Night"

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior is born!
Christ, the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light Radiant beams from Thy holy face With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Preacher Pastor Ben Wesocatt Liturgist Pastor Ben Wescoatt

Elders Earl Welch

Organist Suzanne Manelli

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The Poinsettia's gracing the Chancel were placed to the Glory of God and in the memory of loved ones by:

Diane Schwab

Henry & Hazel Schwab Jacob & Noah Flynn Denny, Patsy, & Sally Schwab

Doris Seevers Loved Ones

Marsha Jackson Joseph Jackson **Loved Ones**